

president will lead to a tariff war. He says it is not likely that the maximum duties will ever be applied but that wherever occasion seems to arise "friendly negotiation" will remove all embarrassment.

On uses of the "new tariff board" the president points out that he has appointed a tariff board of three members and that he thinks that the work of this board will be of great value "whenever congress shall deem it wise again to readjust the customs duty." In this connection he makes this more or less interesting statement: "If the facts secured by the tariff board are of such a character as to show generally that the rates of duties imposed by the present tariff law are excessive under the principles of protection as described in the platform of the successful party at the late election, I shall not hesitate to invite the attention of congress to this fact and to the necessity for action predicated thereon. Nothing, however, halts business and interferes with the course of prosperity so much as the threatened revision of the tariff, and until the facts are at hand, after careful and deliberative investigation, upon which such revision can properly be undertaken, it seems to me unwise to attempt it. The amount of misinformation that creeps into arguments pro and con in respect to tariff rates is such as to require the kind of investigation that I have directed the tariff board to make, an investigation undertaken by it wholly without respect to the effect which the facts may have in calling for a readjustment of the rates of duty."

Referring to the war department the president says he has required a reduction in the estimates which will bring the expenses down to about \$45,000,000 less than those last year. He says he has directed that all progress in military matters be suspended for one year and that the army shall not be recruited up to its present authorized strength. Referring to the navy he says that owing to the necessity for economy he has directed the curtailment of recommendations for naval appropriations so that they are \$38,000,000 less than those for last year. He adds that the request for new naval construction will be limited to two first-class battleships and one repair vessel.

On the subject of "Expedition in Legal Procedure" the president says that the procedure in federal courts, both at law and in equity, should be simplified; that the jurisdiction of the supreme court should be confined almost wholly to statutory and constitutional questions; and that the president be authorized to appoint a commission whose business it will be to make recommendations with a view to simplifying and expediting federal proceedings.

On the subject "Injunctions Without Notice," the president recommends appropriate legislation to carry out the party's platform pledge to more accurately define by statute the rules of procedure in federal court with respect to the writ of injunction. He says that no injunction or restraining order should be issued without previous notice and a reasonable opportunity to be heard unless the court shall be satisfied that the delay necessary to give such notice and hearing would result in irreparable injury. He adds that every injunction issued without previous notice should, by force of the statute, expire and be of no effect after seven days unless within such seven days the injunction shall have been extended.

Referring to anti-trusts and interstate commerce laws, the president says that the Sherman anti-trust law and the inter-state law need amendment. He says he will talk about these amendments in a special message. The president recommends an appropriation for remodeling the jail of the District of Columbia.

He says that the postoffice deficit is largely caused by the low rate of postage of one cent a pound charged on second-class mail matter, which includes not only newspapers but magazines and miscellaneous periodicals. He says that the actual loss growing out of the transmission of this second-class matter at one cent a pound amounts to about \$63,000,000 a year, the average cost of transportation being more than nine cents a pound. He says that the average distance over which the government carries newspapers is 291 miles, magazines 1,049 miles, miscellaneous periodicals 1,128 miles, thus the average haul of the magazine is three and one-half times and that of the miscellaneous periodical nearly four times the haul of the daily newspaper yet all of them pay the same postage rate of one cent a pound. In 1907 second-class mail matter constituted 63.91 per cent of the weight of all the mail and yielded only 19.5 per cent of the revenue. He says: "The figures given are startling and show the payment by the govern-

ment of an enormous subsidy to the newspapers, magazines and periodicals. He thinks that a higher rate of postage should be imposed upon magazines and periodicals. The president says "he is not unmindful of the spread of intelligence which a low charge for carrying newspapers and periodicals assists," but it is difficult for him to overlook a subsidy in this particular and so he says: "I very much doubt, however, the wisdom of a policy which constitutes so large a subsidy and requires additional taxation to meet it."

On the subject of postal savings banks the president says that there is "real necessity and entire practicability" for that reform. He says he is convinced that the people desire such banks, that they are not constituted for the purpose of creating competition with other banks and that the rate of interest upon deposits to which they would be limited would be so small as to prevent their drawing deposits away from other banks. He says postal savings banks will furnish a satisfactory substitute for government guarantee of deposits, which plan he says is full of "the seeds of demoralization." He admits that the question as to the investment of money deposited in postal savings banks is a large one but he adds that a satisfactory provision for this purpose was inserted as an amendment to the bill considered by the senate at its last session. He says that it has been proposed to delay postal savings bank legislation until after the report of the monetary commission. He says this report is likely to be delayed and he does not see why one should be tied up with the other. He says that a system of postal savings banks would not interfere with the central bank system and he plainly shows in this paragraph that he is in favor of the central bank, declaring that the monetary system has learned that panics are avoided in other countries by investing in some central authority control in respect to reserves and the rates of exchange.

If memory is not at fault Mr. Taft is the first republican president to boldly use the words "ship subsidy." Heretofore that phrase has been avoided and ponderous sentences on "merchant marine" have advocated the ship subsidy scheme. But Mr. Taft uses "ship subsidy" as a head line and boldly declares in favor of the passage of a "ship subsidy bill," looking to the establishment of lines between our Atlantic seaboard and the eastern coast of South America as well as lines from the west coast of the United States, South America, China, Japan and the Philippines.

Referring to New Mexico and Arizona he recommends that they be admitted as separate states. He says care should be exercised in the preparation of legislation affecting each territory to secure deliberation in the selection of persons as members of the convention to draft a constitution. After that constitution has been framed by the convention it should be submitted to the people of the territory for approval at an election where there are no other issues, and no officials to elect.

With respect to Alaska he recommends legislation providing for the appointment by the president of a governor and also of an executive council, "the members of which shall, during their term of office, reside in the territory." He does not approve of a territorial legislature but thinks the governor and council which he appoints should have legislative powers.

Discussing the conservation of resources, the president says he will send to congress a special message on that subject and also on the improvement of waterways. Then he recommends a reorganization of the lighthouse board, and the consolidation of the bureaus of manufacturers and statistics. He suggests that "additional legislation" be had and "greater executive activity" be shown in the effort to suppress the "white slave trade" which is built upon the streams of immigration into this country. He asks that a fund of \$50,000 be appropriated to carry on the fight against this evil.

The president suggests that all the bureaus in the general government, dealing with the public health, be united in a bureau to be called "the bureau of public health." He compliments the civil service commission upon its work. He renews the recommendation of his predecessors that congress appropriate a sufficient sum to pay the amounts due depositors in the Freedman's Savings and Trust company.

Calling attention to the fact that the year 1913 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the issuance of the emancipation proclamation, he endorses the proposition that this event be properly celebrated. He says it is proposed to have an exposition to show the progress the negroes have made, and he asks that he be authorized

to appoint a preliminary commission to consider whether or not it is wise to hold such an exposition.

The president concludes his message in these words:

"Speaking generally, the country is in a high state of prosperity. There is every reason to believe that we are on the eve of a substantial business expansion, and we have just garnered a harvest unexampled in the market value of our agricultural products. The high prices which such products bring mean great prosperity for the farming community, but on the other hand they mean a very considerably increased burden upon those classes in the community whose yearly compensation does not expand with the improvement in business and the general prosperity. Various reasons are given for the high prices. The proportionate increase in the output of gold, which today is the chief medium of exchange and is in some respects a measure of value, furnishes a substantial explanation of at least part of the increase in prices. The increase in population and the more expensive mode of living of the people, which have not been accompanied by a proportionate increase in acreage production, may furnish a further reason. It is well to note that the increase in the cost of living is not confined to this country, but prevails the world over, and that those who would charge increases in prices to the existing protective tariff must meet the fact that the rise in prices has taken place almost wholly in those products of the factory and farm in respect to which there has been either no increase in the tariff or in many instances a very considerable reduction."

GAMBLING MUST GO

Clemenceau, representing the government, has introduced a bill in the French chamber of deputies abolishing lotteries. Good for France! Here is another evidence that the moral awakening is world-wide. We stopped the lottery in the United States years ago and are just now engaged in abolishing race track gambling. An attack should now be made on gambling in its citadel, namely, in the stock exchange, the chamber of commerce and the board of trade. These institutions are the training schools for embezzlers and the cause of a multitude of suicides.

Gambling is one of the worst vices that afflicts the race; it is easier to reform a confirmed drunkard than a confirmed gambler, for gambling diseases the morals while drink diseases the body.

Here is a theme for the minister; he ought to speak out against every form of gambling—the "social game," the "raffle" (which is only a baby lottery), "dice-throwing" at the cigar counter, the "guessing contest" and speculation on the market. He ought to proclaim the divine law of rewards, which measures compensation by service and builds accumulations on industry and intelligence. Every child should be taught to shun "get rich quick schemes"—they all appeal to the gambling spirit and the gambling spirit will, if indulged, unfit one for honest and prolonged effort.

GUESSING AT A TARIFF

"The true principle of protection," says the republican platform, "is best maintained by the imposition of such duties as will equal the difference between cost of production at home and abroad." That has long been the cardinal theory of protection. So it would seem that, in framing a tariff bill on true protective principles, the first step would be to ascertain the difference between cost of production at home and abroad.

No such step has ever yet been taken. All the tariff bills have been based substantially upon the ex parte testimony of interested persons. Even after it was well settled that a new bill would be framed in 1909, the protectionist party in congress refused to authorize a scientific investigation of the facts in the case. Even now the country is without authoritative information as to the relation between a given duty and the difference in cost of production at home and abroad. It may have Mr. Gary's statement on one side and Mr. Carnegie's on the other, or a glove manufacturer's allegations and the contradictory allegations of a glove importer; but there is no impartial, determinative finding to which it can turn.—Saturday Evening Post.